

Dear Mr. Ellsberg,

There are three reasons why I am approaching you on a special matter. The first reason is "the Pentagon Papers", the second your book "Papers on the War" and the third is because of your one time connection to the Rand Corporation and the good contacts you must have as a consequence.

Before stating my reasons for writing I think that as you know nothing about me, a personal introduction is called for. Since my earliest youth I have been interested in peace work and I deeply admire those who work to this end. My personal contributions in this respect have not amounted to very much I am afraid, and are limited to a number of published articles in magazines and the daily press together with some speeches in the Norwegian broadcasting. Besides this a certain part of the profit my company is making is used for peace work and for the benefit of humanitarian organisations.

An important event in 1938 was decisive for my attitude. I travelled to Berlin in order to find the Nobel prize winner Carl von Ossietzky who was in the hands of Gestapo and seriously ill from T.B. Through a combination of good luck and youthful zeal I not managed to find him but also to have a long conversation with him during which he gave me details of the treatment to which he had been subjected by the Gestapo. His personality made a permanent impression upon me and I experienced meeting someone who had not only dedicated his life and work as a writer to the cause of peace, but also paid for it with his life.

Together with a group of friends I planned to get von Ossietzky moved from prison to a hospital, but he died before our plans had time to mature - a few weeks after my meeting with him. I published a report from my visit and my conversation with von Ossietzky and the German government at once informed me that I was "unerwünscht" in Germany for the future. I enclose a copy from one page from a book written about Carl von Ossietzky just to indentify myself because I am a total stranger to you and I have no other possibility.

I have, like millions of others, followed your activity with the utmost interest, and this is the reason for contacting you and asking for your assistance.

Here in our country we too have our little Watergates, but we also have people who try to get to the bottom of what is going on. It is on the behalf of a number of these people that I am approaching you in order to obtain some very important information which is lacking in a big political puzzle.

(Cont.)



II.

(Cont.)

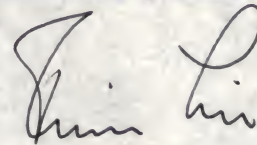
In 1953 a book was published in the U.S.A. written by prof. Phillip Selznick under the title "The Organizational Weapon" (Mc Graw-Hill Book Co. Inc. New York) and this book was translated and adapted for Norwegian conditions by Mr. Haakon Lie (we are not related) in good old Mc Carthy-Style. The copyright for the book belongs to the Rand Corporation and briefly what I would like to know is: Would it be possible for you to find out what sum of money was paid for the translation and "adaption" of this book?

Some people claim that this Mr. Lie is on the paying list of C.I.A. but this can of course not be proved. May be Mr. Jack Anderson could find out?

I do not know of anybody else who could help me so I hope it will be possible for you to provide me with this important information. I will later on send you a detailed report on how matter develops and you have my assurance that your name will not be used or mentioned as the source of the mentioned information.

I am looking forward to hearing from you in this respect if possible.

Sincerel yours

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Finn Lie', with a stylized, cursive script.

(Finn Lie)

Moelv, 3rd January 1975.

Postal adress: Finn Lie,  
Moelv,  
Norway